

# Prince Rupert Daily News

Wednesday, August 5, 1953

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## Skeena Is Unique

AS THE ELECTION campaign approaches its twilight hour, it appears that it will end as quietly as it started. No great issues have thundered across the nation. No scandals have blackened the news. Even the prophets are subdued, and one listens in vain for sensational predictions.

This is all to the good, for it means the results will be the product of calm opinion. As far as this constituency is concerned, it also concentrates more attention than ever on the candidate rather than on the party.

In our remote location, this is a natural tendency under any circumstances. In this big, lonely riding where conditions are so different from any others, we are probably more aware than the average of our personal representation in parliament. As the person who speaks for us must have a specialized knowledge, it is inconceivable that we should ever adopt a candidate from outside just to help out some party, as is frequently done in more populated areas.

This need of familiarity with the particular problems of the Skeena district is something we urge voters to keep closely in mind when they select their candidate on August 10. That is not to say our representative should be without an understanding of the larger affairs affecting the country. If such were the case, he would be a doomed backbencher whose small voice would make an impression on no one.

But when the talk at Ottawa swings away from the bigger topics and the various members can put in their local word, we will like to think that our member is there expressing our needs with clarity and knowledge. If he does not, it is safe to say no one will do it for him. This constituency with its blended problems of fishing, forestry, mining, waterpower, shipping and other transportation—to mention a few—has no equivalent in Canada. Consequently, the only member who can talk about it is our own.

Although the requirements are stiff, we think Ted Applewhaites has met them well during his term in office. There is no telling what another might have done, or could do, and we have no wish to make an issue of it. There are three others in the contest here, which means a total of four different sets of opinion on the subject.

We are only saying that Mr. Applewhaites record and personal qualifications look good to us.

## OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

WITH ST. LAURENT CAMPAIGN TRAIN.—These final days of the campaign in the strategic ridings of Quebec and Ontario are making text-book material for the instruction of future generations of Canadian politicians.

For in the course of them Rt. Hon. Mr. St. Laurent is succeeding in doing something that no previous Canadian party leader has ever been able to do. That is to say, he is bringing his campaign right down to the grass-roots level of an intimate appeal to the local riding through which he happens to be passing. And at the same time he is feeding the breadth and effectiveness of the over-all national campaign of the Liberal party.

It's a brilliant operation to watch at close range. If it succeeds it will guarantee the prime minister's survival as one of the great tacticians of all times in Canadian political history. If it fails, it will still have been a highly interesting experiment.

The way in which the prime minister secures his double-barreled reaction and attends to the national front at the same time as he devotes himself to a strictly local or regional job of vote-getting is something to witness. Ninety per cent of the time is spent on the problem of turning over the individual riding—or group of ridings—which may be hanging in the balance. Starting in the early morning and finishing usually just short of midnight, Mr. St. Laurent will whistle-stop, or motorcade, or just walk if need be. His object is to meet as many groups and individuals as can be handled on a basis of direct, personal approach, without resort to mass technique. To these people he becomes the fascinating "Uncle

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## As I See It

by  
Elmore  
Philipott

Supports Both Mikes

I'M a soft hearted old cuss, in spite of my sour puss pictures. When I heard Lester Pearson's radio talk made on my behalf from the UN headquarters in New York, I got a lump in my throat.

It was not just because of the nice things that "Mike" was saying to help me get elected MP in Vancouver South, though they moved me deeply too.

It was because of another Mike, who taught Lester Pearson and a vast number of others, including me, at old Hamilton Collegiate away back when . . .

\* \* \*

MIKE was our favorite teacher, for many reasons. One reason was that he was guardian, chaperone and loyal friend to all the school sports teams. He went wherever we went.

But he could make poetry literally come alive—so much alive that the living fire from his heart could light your heart too.

Mike was not much to look at—in fact was thin as a rake, pale and the very reverse of hale and hearty.

But when he talked poetry he lived poetry. He lit up like a lamp.

My daughter Martha said to me years ago:

"Dad, how come a radical like you is such a terrific admirer of a conservative poet like Tennyson?"

"Well," I said, "you would have to examine exactly what you mean by radical and you would have to examine exactly what you mean by conservative."

The real answer of course is "Mike." For right to this day, after 40 years, I can recite the whole of "Ulysses" without any trouble and I long since saw that "Locksley Hall" was the finest poem of political prophecy that was ever transmitted through man.

\* \* \*

REMEMBER that in our boyhood days the great world wars were still ahead. None of us who caught the flame of Teacher Mike's inspiration knew that we ourselves would be thrown into the First World War—and that a great many in our room would not come through.

The planes had just begun to fly, as Tennyson over half a century earlier had predicted they would:

"Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rained a ghastly dew. From the nations' airy navy grappling in the central blue."

Certainly we did not know that one of the boys in that very room would become a world-famous statesman and be nicknamed "Mike" after the teacher Mike who was reciting "Till the war drums throbbed no longer, and the battle flags were furled, in the Parliament of Man, the Federation of the world."

\* \* \*

ELECTIONS, including mine, are not so important, people are not important, in the sense the fate of the world depends on any one person.

God always has more than one string to his bow, and if one person won't or can't another can and will.

But ideas are infinitely important. If I were asked to name the one living idea which I think is the most important thing in the world today it is the building of world peace through world law.

The United Nations is a stepping stone to such peace under world law.

If the people where I live want me to try to help build that peace I'll do my bit as best I can as their MP and a supporter of both Mikes.



IN THE FINAL DRIVE of the federal election campaign Prime Minister St. Laurent is speaking and travelling mainly in Ontario. His daughter, Mrs. S. Samson, accompanies him on his visit to London, Ont.

## LETTERBOX

THE REAL REASON

The Editor,  
The Daily News:

With the various letters for and against, and good and bad and also the very practical editorial about the unfortunate and very foolish to say the least, affairs of the last two Saturdays, I feel compelled to write a short letter because the main and real reason and cause of 90 percent of the trouble has carefully been kept out of the paper.

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## PUBLICITY A DISGRACE

The Editor,  
The Daily News:

I would like to state some hard cold facts as I see them along with some of my business acquaintances who hold the same views as I do myself.

I have been in business here, in the so-called "skid road" district for five years and I can almost name the ten or twelve habitual drunks who are a nuisance to the town.

You take the city of Prince Rupert, Victoria, Vancouver or any other city, 11:30 of a Saturday evening, or any other evening for that matter—it's quite natural that a crowd will gather for at least 10 to 15 minutes after the beer parlors close.

Now, who are the police or any other law enforcement individual to tell a citizen that he should move on, or be pushed forward by a policeman. Do the police know, or the powers that be, that under Canadian or British law, that if an officer puts his hand on your shoulder unless he is making an arrest, that actually he could be charged with assault.

The last two Saturday evenings affairs seem to have been deliberately started by the police. Why Third Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Streets? Take the Commercial Hotel, the Prince Rupert Hotel and the Oceanview Hotel—These hotels get the same people but at emptying out time there are no police there to urge the crowd on. This publicity of Prince Rupert is an absolute disgrace.

A CLOSE OBSERVER

The Editor,  
The Daily News:

I was a witness to the disgraceful performance on Saturday night and must say I was ashamed of our so-called white men as I took particular notice of the agitators and a great many were white.

I don't think they deserve the name but think the police should pick them up as they are very much worse than the natives who think they have a grievance but they can never be solved by such actions and only succeed in harming our own people, who do not need liquor to give them courage.

To me, it was only a great show of cowardice on their part and could be settled in a saner manner, as they acted like maniacs and must remember our police are paid to protect us and our property.

It must be a very difficult job to please everybody, so why listen to such cowards who are only there to stir up trouble for their own entertainment, such

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Telephone Blue 964 — 914 1st Ave. West

Ray Reflects and Reminiscence

There is considerable rainfall during certain months of the year. Who dare deny or question that? Of course there is AT LAST THE HOSPITAL There was a makeshift hospital here before something better became established. It stood at Hays Creek long before anyone mentioned drydock. To proceed there for treatment was quicker and easier by using a power boat than attempting to cover the distance over rough cleared townsite. Bye and bye, however, the officers and directors of the Hospital Association had reason to believe the main objective would take form. There came a day when the city's first institution was formally opened by the provincial secretary, Hon. H. E. Young. Association mem-

bers then were J. A. Rick, G. W. Morrow, A. E. K. Stratton, T. D. R. Naden, A. Carr, S. Stewart, P. L. Palmer and Clark.

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